Memorandum for file OSI-M/A 21 January 1953

Meeting of OSI Advisory Group on UFO
January 14 thru 17, 1953

Declassified by 058375
date 20 APR 1977

At 0945 on January 14, 1953, an ad hoc panel of scientific consultants was convened to review the "Unidentified Flying Objects" problem. A detailed statement of the problem presented to the group by CIA is attached as Appendix A. The panel consisted of the following:

Dr. Robertson, CIT
Dr. Luis Alvarez
Dr. S. Goudsmit, Brookhaven
Dr. Thornton Page, ORO Johns Hopkins
Dr. J.A. Hynek, consultant to ATIC.

The following members of the staff of OSI were present for various parts of the discussions.

Dr. H.M. Chadwell
R.L. Clark
P.G. Strong
F.C. Durant III
Lt. Col. Oder (P&E)
D.B. Stevenson (Weapons)

To assist the scientific panel in its review and analysis of evidence, Capt. E. J. Ruppelt of ATIC, Lt. Neasham and Mr. H. Woo of the Navy photo interpretation lab at Anacostia, and Major Fournet and Capt. Smith of Air Force Directorate of Intelligence were present.

A final report on the results of the meeting is being prepared for the AD/SI by F.C. Durant but it is believed that the following is a fair statement of the conclusions reached:

1. No evidence is available to indicate any physical threat to the security of the United States.

2. No evidence is available to indicate the existence or use of any as yet unknown (to us) fundamental scientific principles.

3. The subject "UFO" is not of direct intelligence interest. It is of indirect intelligence interest only insofar as any knowledge about the innumerable unsolved mysteries of the universe are of intelligence interest.

4. The subject "UFO" is of operational interest for three reasons:
(a) Interference with air defense by intentional enemy jamming or by lack of ability on the part of operating personnel to discriminate between radar anomalies and actual airborne weapons
(b) Related to (a), interference with air defense by overloading communication lines from the air defense observation stations.
(c) Possibility of a psychological offensive by the enemy timed with respect to an actual attack could conceivably seriously

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reduce the defense effort of the general public.

It is noted that these general conclusions as stated here do not specifically answer the needs presented in Appendix A. However, it is anticipated that comment on these points will be presented in a written statement from the scientific panel to AD/SI.

DBS:gl (typed 12 February 1953)